

This newsletter is a publication of the California Regional Environmental Education Community (CREEC) Network. CREEC is administered by the California Department of Education, Environmental Education Program, in partnership with numerous agencies.

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Spring has sprung and soon it will be summer! Region 7 offers an exciting array of events and contests to fill the hot summer days. It is time to become involved in your community and support an environmental education project where you work and play!

Enjoy!

Rae Ann Jimenez

To subscribe to this newsletter, please go to: www.creec.org/region7

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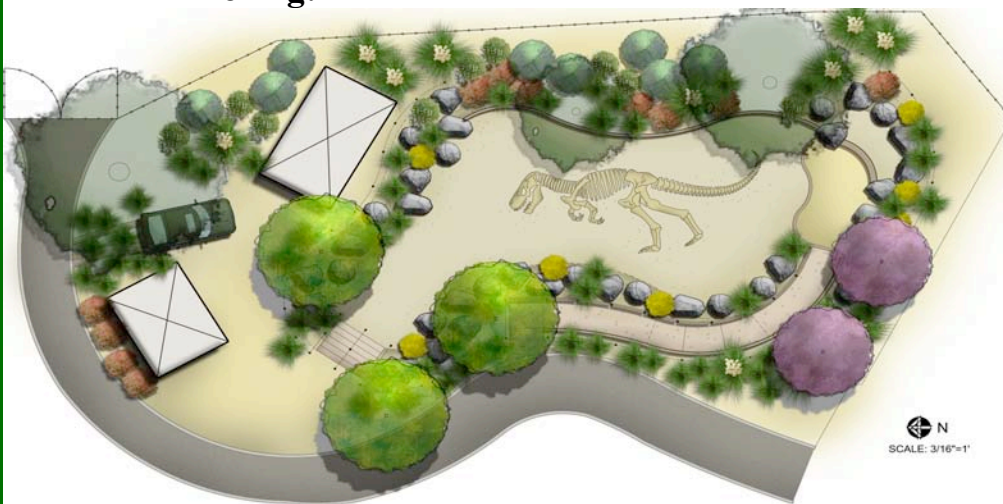
Announcements:

All drafts of Education and the Environment Initiative (EEI) Curriculum units are available on the web:

www.calepa.ca.gov/education/EEI/curriculum/default.htm#curriculumunits

FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO

Dino Dig!



Themed like a Montana dinosaur dig site, this area in the zoo is focused on a highly interactive learning experience for children. It features a dig area with a full-size adult *Tyrannosaurus Rex* skeleton buried in a large sand area. It has other dinosaur fossils buried, including dinosaur eggs. Children of all ages will be able to explore and learn for hours. During busy times, the camp area will have a “paleontologist”, an education staff member who will help the children learn and explore. The camp has a seating area for parents to relax and socialize while their children play and learn.

SUMMER CAMP PROGRAMS

- San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust: More information can be found at www.riverparkway.org
Programs for ages 3 ½ through 19 at Scout Island and Owl Hollow where energetic counselors, life guards, visiting scientists and artist lead a variety of activities to help children experience the great outdoors.
- Fresno Chaffee Zoo: More information can be found at:
www.fresnochaffeezoo.com
Zoo Adventures Camp is for ages 3 through 17, with different weekly themes from behind the scenes with a zoo keeper, a visit with an education animal, and shadowing a keeper.

GRANTS, CONFERENCES, AND COMPETITIONS



Shaunzi and Kara,
Fresno Chaffee
Zoo's elephant girls

National Elephant Appreciation Day!
September 22, 2010 is National Elephant Appreciation Day! The Fresno Chaffee Zoo will be celebrating by coordinating an Elephant Poetry contest for students throughout the valley. More detail will be coming...(contact Lesley lgates@fresnochaffeezoo.com)



Fresno Chaffee Zoo Photo Contest 2010

Whether you are a young enthusiast or seasoned photographer, this is your chance to take your best shot! This is a wonderful opportunity to show off your shutterbug skills and show pride in your Zoo at the same time. To view rules for the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Photo Contest. www.fresnochaffeezoo.com

Rangers in the Classroom – Integrating National Park Resources in Classroom Curriculum

Saturday, June 5, 2010

Tulare County Office of Education

Open to all grade 3-4 teachers. This workshop will integrate the wonders of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks into your classroom. You will investigate opportunities to inspire students to value the outdoors and increase their understanding of the natural and cultural resources around them.



Salmonids in the Classroom

October 7, 2010, 5:00-9:00

Tulare County Office of Education, Sequoia Room

Salmonids in the Classroom is a program that provides a unique learning experience for teachers and their students on the salmon and trout fisheries of the Central California Valley. Workshop is presented with Tulare County Office of Education and California Department of Fish and Game.

Registration – <http://tulare.k12oms.org/147-36670>

Forestry Institute for Teachers!

Increase your understanding and appreciation of California's forest ecosystems.

Learn, laugh and relax at a beautiful forest location with caring professional educators.

Learn about environmental education concepts and curriculum materials.

Plan and develop science-based curriculum that is linked to California Content Standards.

June 13-19 Plumas County

June 27-July 2 Toulumne County

July 11-17 Humboldt County

July 18-24 Shasta County

www.forestryinstitute.org



PARENTS' CORNER

Science: It's a Girl Thing!

Science: It's a Girl Thing! is using the power of social media to connect with parents and educators about how to foster girls' interest in science and technology, and why that is important. Funded by the National Science Foundation, the program offers web-based and easy-to-use resources for conducting science activities at home. It builds on everyday science that parents already know. Just as children are natural scientists, parents are natural teachers. **Science: It's a Girl Thing!** includes a series of short, entertaining and educational videos and *free downloadable PDF activity cards* for parents to use in working with their daughters. To access the free activity cards, visit **It's a Girl Thing** at <http://www.edequity.org/sigt/>

SPECIAL THANKS

I would like to send a special thank you to Region 7 participants for sending Environmental news and pictures for the newsletter and for having a strong commitment to Environmental Education for California and especially Region 7!